



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ROBINSON *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/942,583

Filed: August 31, 2001

For: **Neisserial Vaccine Compositions
And Methods**

Confirmation No. 9616

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Nita M. Minnifield

Atty. Docket: 1581.0840001/RWE/Y-W

#8
Linda
3/4/03

Reply To Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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In response to the Office Action dated **January 29, 2003** (PTO File Wrapper Paper No. 7), requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, *with traverse*, to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1-8 and 19. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the non-elected claims in related applications.


Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement as between Groups I-III, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such

extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: Feb 23, 2003

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February 27, 2003

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Art Unit 1645

Re: Appl. No. 09/942,583; Filed: August 31, 2001
For: **Neisserial Vaccine Compositions And Methods**
Inventors: **ROBINSON et al.**
Our Ref: 1581.0840001/RWE/Y-W

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement; and
2. One (1) Return Postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Robert W. Esmond

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